

Message Text

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73

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

AID-05 CEA-01 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01 CIEP-02 STR-04

TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 SAJ-01 /097 W

----- 061510

R 221428Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5430

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USEC BRUSSELS

UNCLAS MADRID 3127

E.9. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, SP

SUBJECT: EX-PM HEALTH SUPPORTS SPAIN'S ENTRY INTO EC

1. EDWARD HEATH, EX-BRITISH PRIME MINISTER AND TORY PARTY CHIEF, WAS RECEIVED YESTERDAY, APRIL 22, IN SPECIAL AUDIENCE BY KING JUAN CARLOS AND AFTERWARDS WAS THE GUEST OF HONOR AT A LUNCH HOSTED BY FOREIGN MINISTER AREILZA. HEATH, A REGULAR VACATIONER IN SPAIN FOR SOME YEARS, WAS INTERVIEWED WHILE ON VACATION IN SPAIN BY THE LONDON "SUNDAY TELEGRAPH." HE SAID THAT THE ATTITUDE OF THE BRITISH AND EUROPEAN LEFT TOWARDS UNCLASSIFIED

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SPAIN SEEMED TO HIM "STUPID AND SHORTSIGHTED" AND THAT IT

COULD BE THE "GERM OF A DISTRUCTIVE POLICY." HE WAS IN FAVOR OF BOTH SPAIN AND PORTUGAL BECOMING MEMBERS OF THE EC, SAYING THAT THE COMMUNITY'S GOVTS WOULD THEMSELVES BENEFIT MUCH BY "AIDING SPAIN AND PORTUGAL TO ACHIEVE THE STATUS OF STABLE DEMOCRACIES." THE INTERVIEW WAS PUBLISHED LAST SUNDAY, PRECEDING THE AUDIENCE WITH THE KING.

2. AT A PRESS CONFERENCE PRIOR TO HIS AUDIENCE, HEALTH REPLIED THAT THERE WAS NO EASY SOLUTION TO THE QUESTION OF GIBRALTAR SINCE IT AWOKE PROFOUNDLY HELD ATTITUDES AMONG BOTH THE BRITISH AND THE SPANISH. IN A PREVIOUS INTERVIEW WITH A MALAGA PAPER, HE HAD SAID, AS WELL, THAT THE CITIZENS OF GIBRALTAR MUST EXPRESS THEIR DESIRES ON THE QUESTION, BUT THAT WITH GOOD WILL THE PROBLEM COULD BE RESOLVED. HE ALSO FELT THAT NOW WAS A GOOD TIME FOR THE ENTRANCE OF SPAIN INTO THE EC TO BE NEGOTIATED. "SPAIN HAS ENTERED INTO A NEW EPOCH OF POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT AND I BELIEVE IT WILL BE A SUCCESS."

STABLER

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NNN

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